

NON-FORMULARY EXCEPTION CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

1. The member must have tried at least two alternative formulary drugs that have a similar mechanism of action as the requested drug AND the member either did not respond to or did not tolerate the formulary alternative drugs. If two drugs with a similar mechanism of action are not available on formulary, the member must have tried two alternative formulary drugs that are medically acceptable to treat the member's condition. (NOTE: if the requested drug is a multi-source brand and the generic equivalent is covered on the formulary, the member must have tried and failed the generic drug equivalent, as one of the two required formulary alternatives.);
OR
2. The prescriber provides an explanation of why formulary alternative drugs would *not* be as effective in treating the member's condition and/or would cause the member to have adverse effects.

Length of approval: 12 months

Non-Discrimination and Accessibility Notice

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC) provides:

- Free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as: qualified interpreters and/or written information in other formats (large print, accessible electronic formats, etc.)
- Free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as: qualified interpreters and/or information written in other languages

If you need these services, call the Customer Service or TTY number on the back of your member ID card.

If you believe that Blue Cross NC has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can file a grievance with:

Blue Cross NC, P.O. Box 2291, Durham, NC 27702
Attention: Civil Rights Coordinator-Privacy,
Ethics & Corporate Policy Office
Call: 919-765-1663, 1-888-291-1783 (TTY)
Fax: 919-287-5613
E-mail: civilrightscordinator@bcbsnc.com

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator-Privacy, Ethics & Corporate Policy Office is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at:

Online: <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf>
Mail: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW Room 509F
HHH Building Washington, D.C., 20201
Call: 1-800-368-1019, 1-800-537-7697 (TDD)
Complaint forms are available online at:
<http://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/filing-a-complaint/index.html>

This notice and/or attachments may have important information about your application or coverage through Blue Cross NC. Look for key dates. You may need to take action by certain deadlines to keep your health coverage or help with costs. You have the right to get this information and help in your language at no cost. If you need these services, call the Customer Service or TTY number on the back of your member ID card.

Discrimination is Against the Law

Blue Cross NC complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

Blue Cross NC does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.